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GENERAL

1. US urges tripartite statement on Berlin--The Department of State has informed the US delegation in Paris that it interprets Marshal Sokolovsky's recent letter to the three military governors in Berlin as a blatant attempt to place responsibility upon the western powers for the Berlin elections of 5 December, thus making them appear responsible for splitting the city's administration. The Department considers that: (a) this letter, together with recent events in Berlin, provides clear evidence that the USSR is using illegal methods to secure control of Berlin; (b) a continuation of such methods may well constitute a threat to peace equivalent to that already created by the blockade; and (c) the western powers should issue a statement which would denounce these Soviet tactics and demonstrate Soviet interference with UN efforts to solve the Berlin question.

US Ambassador Smith in Moscow expresses his view that it would be advisable for the US delegation at the UN to issue a strong US statement on this matter.

2. US position on Tripolitania--The Department of State has reminded the US delegation at the UN that a US vote against Italy on the disposition of Tripolitania may not only damage US prestige in Italy but might endanger the present Italian Government. The Department has therefore instructed the US delegation: (a) to avoid voting against Italian trusteeship for Tripolitania, if possible; and (b) to regard a postponement of the Italian colonies settlement as the only desirable alternative. The US delegation has also been instructed, in view of the US commitment to obtain a British trusteeship for Cyrenaica this year, to secure British approval before advocating general postponement of this question.

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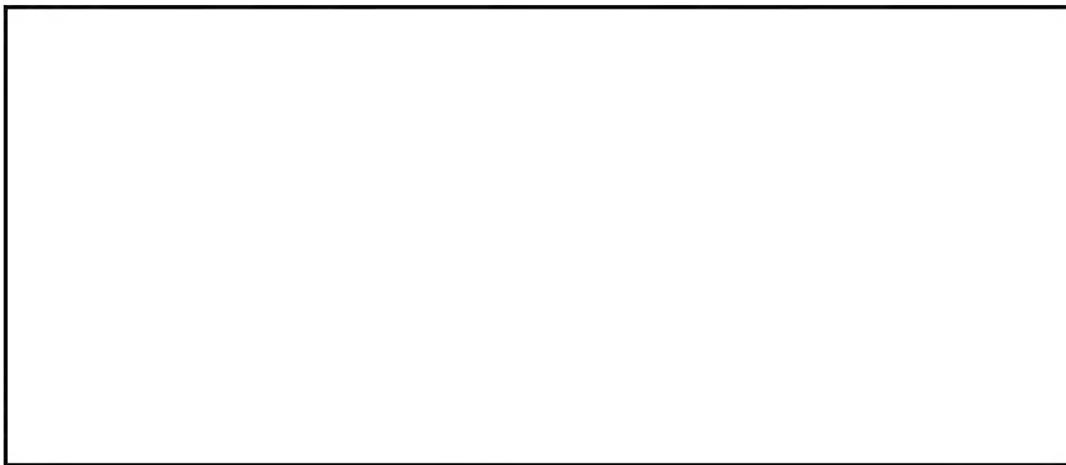
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FAR EAST

3. CHINA: Removal of National Government from Nanking -
[redacted] a "usually reliable" Chinese
official that certain Nationalist leaders have submitted to
Chiang Kai-shek a plan for the removal of the Government
from Nanking to Canton and Chungking. Source believes
that Chiang has concurred in principle to this plan and has
given his tacit consent. In transmitting this report, US Embas-
sassy Nanking comments that it is hard to see how the trans-
planted Government will be able to perform its essential
functions and exercise effective control over the unoccupied
portions of China. The Embassy considers therefore that
provincial administrations in west, southwest, and south
China will probably develop a considerable degree of auto-
nomy.

The US Military, Naval, and Air Attaches in Nanking
report that the Nationalist Foreign Office is "definitely"
going to Canton and the other departments will probably be
split between Canton and Chungking. The Attaches consider

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that the remaining Nationalist defense positions above the Yangtze River have been made hopeless by Communist infiltration and the prevailing general confusion.

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that this belated, poorly-organized effort to move the National Government will involve a serious loss of prestige and authority. The transferred Government will probably be unable to maintain control in the greater part of non-Communist China for long.)

THE AMERICAS

4. ECUADOR: Dissatisfaction within the army increasing --

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[redacted] that a "subversive movement inside the Ecuadoran Army" is growing fast and that the situation is very tense. [redacted] also report "strong indications" that an army coup may be expected.

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(CIA Comment: CIA reports indicate that the leaders of the dissident army groups are opposed to President Galo Plaza. These opposition forces are capable of gaining control of the army by effective collaboration.)

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